

Appl. No. 09/882,639
Amdt. Dated 5 January 2006
Reply to Office action of 12 October 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant appreciates the consideration shown by the Office, as evidenced by the Office Action mailed on 12 October 2005. In that Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-15 under 35 USC 101; rejected claims 1, 3-9, 11-16, 18-24, and 26-30 under Limousin US6938242; and rejected claims 2, 10, 17, and 25 under Limousin in view of Martin et al., March 1987 "A Project Accountability Chart (PAC)," Journal of Systems Management.

Claims 1-30 remain under consideration in the present application. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application by the Examiner in light of the following remarks offered in response to the Office Action.

35 USC 101

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 1-15 under 35 USC 101. More specifically, Applicant respectfully traverses the Office Action statement that the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. In particular, the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences has recently removed the "technical arts" test in Ex Parte Lundgren (BPAI, No. 2003-2088, 9/28/05). Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-15 are in full compliance with the requirements of 35 USC 101.

35 USC 102

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 1, 3-9, 11-16, 18-24, and 26-30 under 35 USC 102(e) over Limousin.

Applicant respectfully submits that Limousin does not teach or disclose the claim 1, 9, 16, or 24 recitations of (with emphasis added).

[c01] A computerized method for accessing and displaying project risk management information, the method comprising:
creating a plurality of **issues and risks** using a globally-accessible system; and
monitoring and tracking the plurality of issues and risks via the globally-accessible system using a plurality of color-coded visual displays graphically **indicating favorable or unfavorable process progress** over time.

[c09] A computerized method for accessing and displaying project risk management information, the method comprising:
creating a plurality of **issues and risks** using a globally-accessible system;
monitoring and tracking the plurality of issues and risks via the globally-accessible system using a plurality of color-coded visual displays graphically **indicating favorable or unfavorable process progress** over time; and

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wherein the globally-accessible system may be accessed by a plurality of remote users simultaneously.

[c16] A computerized system for accessing and displaying project risk management information, the system comprising:

an issue management module operable for creating, storing, and graphically displaying the status of a **plurality of issues**;

a risk management module operable for creating, storing, and graphically displaying the status of a **plurality of risks**;

a plurality of color-coded visual displays for **graphically displaying the status of the plurality of issues and risks**;

a processor operable for manipulating information related to the plurality of issues and risks; and

a communications network operable for **communicating information related to the plurality of issues and risks** to and from a plurality of remote users.

[c24] A computerized system for accessing and displaying project risk management information, the system comprising:

an issue management module operable for creating, storing, and graphically displaying the status of a **plurality of issues**;

a risk management module operable for creating, storing, and graphically displaying the status of a **plurality of risks**;

a plurality of color-coded visual displays for **graphically displaying the status of the plurality of issues and risks**;

a processor operable for manipulating information related to the plurality of issues and risks; and

a communications network operable for **communicating information related to the plurality of issues and risks** to and from a plurality of remote users simultaneously.

Instead Limousin appears to relate to **planning equipment installation** (see, for example the abstract and column 1, lines 50-56). Applicant could not find any references to "risks" or "issues" in Limousin. All of the tracking appears to be directed to planning of installation **tasks**. Tasks are typically activities in a project that must be performed over a fixed time interval. The bars referenced in the cited column 10, lines 31-40 of Limousin do not appear to relate to issues or risks but instead appear to relate to a Gantt chart including tasks to be completed.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1, claims 3-8 which depend therefrom, claim 9, claims 11-15 which depend therefrom, claim 16, claims 18-23 which depend therefrom, claim 24, and claims 26-30 which depend therefrom define allowable subject matter over the applied art. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested, and allowance of claims 1, 3-9, 11-16, 18-24, and 26-30 is respectfully solicited.

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35 USC 103

Claims 2, 10, 17, and 25 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) on Limousin in view of Martin. Claims 2, 10, 17, and 25 respectively depend from independent claims 1, 9, 16, and 24, each of which Applicant believes to be in condition for allowance over Limousin for the reasons discussed above.

Furthermore, Applicant cannot find a specific reference to "risk probability number" in Martin and traverses the office action assertion that an "indication of completion" (page 8 column 2 and page 9 column 1) is a "risk probability number."

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2, 10, 17, and 25 define allowable subject matter over Limousin and Martin.

Summary

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is needed to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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